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**\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\***

**Date: March 20, 2018**

Contact: Lori Wells, Manager  
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**Subject: The “Bear” Facts**

**Traverse City** – Since April is almost here, hibernating bears in Northwest Michigan’s Lower Peninsula will be waking up from their yearly winter slumber. The black bear is the only species of bear found in Michigan. Nowhere is the bear boom stronger than the 10-county area of Michigan, designated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the Baldwin Bear Management Unit, which includes Grand Traverse County. The Northern Lower Peninsula has seen almost a 50 percent increase in the bear population since 2000, according to the DNR.

Join the DNR on Monday, April 9, 6 p.m., in Acme, at the Samaritas (formerly Hope Village), 4354 Mount Hope Rd, as they present details about a black bear’s life cycle, general biology and behavior. Hear how the Michigan Department of Natural Resources manages and maintains a healthy black bear population. Also discussed are ways that education about the species is reaching the classroom.

Presentation at 6 p.m. is free. There is an optional buffet style Italian dinner with salad and dessert served at 5 p.m. for \$5. Register and pay in advance at the Senior Center in Traverse City by Wednesday, April 4.

For more information and to register, email [dmikowski@grandtraverse.org](mailto:dmikowski@grandtraverse.org) or call the new program registration number at 231-922-2080

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